

REMARKS

The claims now pending in the application are Claims 1 to 10, 29 and 30, the independent claims being Claims 1, 10, 29 and 30. Claims 11 to 28 have been previously cancelled.

In the Official Action dated April 29, 2003, Claims 1, 7 to 10, 29 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,526,232 (Mizumura). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Initially, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that the application contains allowable subject matter, and that Claims 2 to 6 are allowable over the prior art of record.

The rejection of the claims over the cited art respectfully are traversed. The present invention relates to a novel optical device, optical device driving unit, information write device, preset information setting system, and camera system. In one aspect, as recited in independent Claim 1, the present invention relates to a preset information setting system comprising an optical device and an information write device set outside the optical device and connected to the optical device. The optical device includes an optical member, drive means for driving the optical member, storage means for storing preset information which is written by the information write device and relates to driving of the optical member, and control means for controlling the drive means, wherein the control means performs preset drive control of the drive means on the basis of the preset information stored in the storage means.

In another aspect, as recited in independent Claim 10, the present invention relates to a preset information setting system comprising an optical device and an information

write device set outside the optical device and connected to the optical device. The optical device includes an optical member, drive means for driving the optical member, storage means for storing first preset information which is written by the information write device and relates to driving of the optical member, storage operation setting means operated to store second preset information into the storage means, and control means for controlling the drive means, wherein the control means selects one of the first preset information and the second preset information stored in the storage means, and performs preset drive control of the drive means on the basis of the selected first preset information or second preset information.

In another aspect, as now recited in independent Claim 29, the present invention relates to an optical device comprising an optical member, drive means for driving the optical member, storage means for storing preset information which is written by an external information write device and relates to driving of the optical member, and control means for controlling the drive means, wherein the control means performs preset drive control of the drive means on the basis of the preset information stored in the storage means.

In yet another aspect, the present invention relates to an optical device comprising an optical member, drive means for driving the optical member, storage means for storing first preset information which is written by an external information write device and relates to driving of the optical member, operation setting means for setting second preset information that relates to driving of the optical member, and control means for controlling the drive means. The control means selects one of first preset information which is stored in the storage means and the second preset information which is set by the operation setting means, and performs preset drive control of the drive means on the basis of the selected first preset information or second preset information.

Thus, in each aspect, the present invention relates to the feature of an optical device comprising storage means for storing preset information which is written by an information write device and relates to driving of the optical member. With respect to independent Claims 29 and 30, it will be appreciated that the optical device of the present invention has a preset function and, therefore, the optical device has storage means for storing preset information therein. The storage means also is used for storing preset information which is written by an information write device. Thus, the system avoids complicated structure and production costs which result from providing storage means outside and independent from the optical device.

Applicants submit that the prior art fails to anticipate the present invention. Moreover, Applicants submit that there are differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

The Mizumura '232 patent relates to a lens control unit, and discloses a unit in which a position of an operating member for operating a zoom position or a focus position of a lens unit is moved by following the actual zoom position where the focus position of the lens unit in the case where a shot function for instantly reproducing the zoom position and the focus position of the lens unit that are stored before hand are executed, whereby the operating member can control the zoom or focus of the lens unit with the zoom position or focus position that is moved by the shot function as the origins. However, Applicants submit that the Mizumura '232 patent fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-described features of the present invention. Specifically, Applicants submit that the Mizumura '232 patent fails to disclose storage means for storing preset information, as disclosed and claimed in the present application.

Further, Applicants submit that the Mizumura '232 patent is not prior art against the subject application. The Mizumura patent issued February 25, 2003, based on a U.S. application filed April 14, 2000. The present application was filed March 30, 2001, and claims priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-103485 filed April 5, 2000. A sworn English translation of the Japanese Priority Document is submitted herewith. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the outstanding rejection is overcome, and respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

For the above reasons, Applicants submit that independent Claims 1, 10, 29 and 30 are allowable over the cited art.

Claims 2 to 9 depend from Claim 1 and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional features in combination with the features of independent Claim 1, and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.

SUBMISSION OF SWORN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

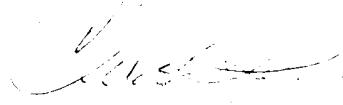
A sworn English translation of the Japanese Patent Document No. 2000-103485, filed April 5, 2000 is submitted herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submit that the application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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